

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O: CMNAGAO

APPROVED BY:S/S-O: RMWRIGHT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 224899

EXDIS - TOSEC 529

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO PARIS, CAIRO,
TEL AVIV FROM USUN NEW YORK NOV 14.

QUOTE USUN NEW YORK 4757.

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJ: ISRAELI DISPUTE WITH UN OVER CHECKPOINTS

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 9183 (B) USUN 4698

1. VIEWS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL A GENERALLY COINCIDE
WITH OUR OWN. WHAT THIS INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES IS THE
POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY, ON OCCASION, BE IMPOSSIBLE
TO RECONCILE TWO CONFLICTING CONCEPTS, I.E. THE EFFECTIVE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI AGREEMENT AND THE
DESIRABILITY THAT THE TWO PARTIES SETTLE THESE MATTERS
BETWEEN THEMSELVES. THAT IS WHY LAST SENTENCE REFTEL B
INCLUDED WORD "MERELY".

2. IF THE DISPUTE IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH, COULD ENDANGER
THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT OR JEOPAR-
DIZE THE AGREEMENT ITSELF, THEN WE BELIEVE THESE FACTORS
MAY BE OVER-RIDING.

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3. UN DOES HAVE A ROLE WHICH IS SPELLED OUT IN THE
AGREEMENT AND IT CANNOT REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO
STAND ASIDE WHILE THE TWO SIDES NEGOTIATES DETAILS IN WHICH

IT IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED. NOR CAN IT REFUSE AT LEAST TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES IF REQUESTED TO BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER. AS PARA 11 USUN 4698 POINTS OUT SIILASVUO IS TO PROVIDE GOOD OFFICES "IF ACCEPTED BY BOTH SIDES". IN THIS CASE THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY ISRAELIS AND, SIILASVUO APPARENTLY DID NOT INSIST.

4. USUN 4698 DID NOT RECOMMEND ANY SUG ACTION BUT WE DID WISH TO INDICATE THAT, IN SOME CASES, ISRAELI INSISTENCE ON OBSERVANCE ITS PRINCIPLE OF DEALING DIRECTLY WITH OTHER

SIDE COULD IN FACT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AND ENDANGER IMPLEMENTATION OF CEASEFIRE.

5. RESPONSIBLE UN OFFICIALS CLEARLY BELIEVE THAT UN IS NOT A PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TWO SIDES. HOWEVER THEY DO BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD HAVE A ROLE, IF NECESSARY AND IF WANTED, TO HELP FACILITATE AGREEMENT OF PARTIES SO THAT UN CAN CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE.

6. THEREFORE WE BELIEVE THERE IS NO BASIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EMBASSY TEL AVIV AND USUN IN THIS MATTER. RATHER WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE IMMENSELY DETAILED, FREQUENTLY DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISRAELI/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT MAY, OF NECESSITY, OCCASIONALLY REQUIRE A LOCAL UN INPUT. IN NEW YORK WE LOSE SIGHT AT OUR PERIL OF THE FACT THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE LITERALLY ITCHING TO GET INTO THE ACT. KIND OF DISPUTE THAT HAS OCCURRED OVER KM 119 CHECKPOINT SINCE YESTERDAY GIVES THEM EXACTLY KIND OF EXCUSE THEY SEEK TO CONVENE SC MEETING. IN THIS CASE MEETING WOULD ADVERSELY INJECT SC DIRECTLY INTO SITUATION AND CONCEIVABLY RESULT IN DRAFT RES INCLUDING CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL WHICH US MIGHT HAVE TO VETO. CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH DELETERIOUS SC INVOLVEMENT WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE AND MAKE MORE DIFFICULT FURTHER
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PROGRESS.
SCALI UNQUOTE RUSH

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